

## Message Text

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14

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-11 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 NEA-10

FEA-01 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03

H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06

PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 /133 W

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R 020820Z APR 76 CORRECTED COPY FOR MCN

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9115

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: GATT ETRD

SUBJECT: GATT DISC PANEL

REF: GENEVA 2308

1. GATT DEPUTY DG PATTERSON CALLED US TO INDICATE THAT THEY WERE THINKING OF FORMER GATT SPECIAL ASSISTANT HARRY REED AS POSSIBLE REPLACEMENT FOR FALCONER ON DISC PANEL. HE ASKED OUR REACTION. WE RESPONDED THAT FIRST PREFERENCE WOULD CERTAINLY BE TO MAINTAIN FALCONER AS MEMBER OF PANRL. WE RECOGNIZED, HOWEVER, THAT IF FALCONER WAS NOT GOING TO BE ABLE TO SERVE UNTIL END OF EXERCISE IT WOULD BEST TO REPLACE HIM IMMEDIATELY RATHER THAN BEING FACED WITH AN EVEN MORE DIFFICULT PROBLEM LATER. WE THEREFORE SUGGESTED THAT NEXT STEP MIGHT BE FOR GATT TO ASK NZG IF IT WOULD GIVE ASSURANCE

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OF CONTINUED FALCONER AVAILABILITY UNTIL PANEL HAD COMPLETED ITS WORK, OF COURSE ON ASSUMPTION THAT GATT WOULD

PAY TRAVEL COSTS INVOLVED. SUBSEQUENTLY PATTERSON CALLED LOCAL EC REP (LUYTEN) WHOSE REACTION WAS SAME AS OUTS. PATTERSON THEREFORE CALLED NEW AEA-LAND AMBASSADOR EASTERBROOK-SMITH AND ASKED HIM TO QUERY NZG WHETHER IT WOULD GIVE SUCH ASSURANCE. EASTERBROOK-SMITH UNDERTOOK DO SO.

2. FALCONER SUBSEQUENTLY CALLED TO SAY THAT NZ CABLE TO WELLINGTON WILL BE WORDED IN SUCH A WAY AS TO RECOMMEND HIS RESIGNATION FROM PANELS. KEY WILL BE THAT HE (FALCONER) WANTS TO TO SERVE BUT GATT UNABLE GUARANTEE THAT PANELS WILL WIND UP THIS SUMMER. FALCONER ADDED THAT CURRENT PANEL MEMBER GABRIELSON IS CONVINCED THAT PANELS' S TASK WILL BE LONG AND DIFFICULT; SAID GABRIELSON DOES NOT AT ALL SEE CASES AS CLERAR-CUT.

3. FOR CONTINGENCY THAT NZG NOT WILLING GIVE ASSURANCES RE FALCONER AVAILABILITY, PATTERSON ASKED US TO START THINKING ABOUT REED AS POSSIBLE PANEL MEMBER.

4. MISSION COMMENT: REED HAS HAD LONG SENIOR EXPERIENCE AS SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO GATT DIRECTOR GENERALS WYNDHAM AND LONG AND IS CERTAINLY ONE OF MOST KNOWLEDGEABLE PERSONS ON GATT. WE HAVE FULL CONFIDENCE IN HIS OBJECTIVITY AND HAVE NEVER SEEN ANY INDICATION OF ANTI-U.S. BIAS. DALE

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## Message Attributes

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